ORDINANCE NO. 2008-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOMERSET, TEXAS SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A STATE PILOT PROGRAM TO REGULATE BOARDING HOUSES, AS DEFINED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of Texas enacted House Bill (HB) 1168 calling for the development of a pilot program to adopt and enforce rules and regulations for boarding houses, as defined by the State; and

WHEREAS, boarding houses are defined by the State in HB 1168 as establishments that provide services, including community meals, light housework, meal preparation, transportation, grocery shopping, money management, or laundry services to three or more elderly persons or disabled persons residing in the boarding house who are unrelated to the owner of proprietor of the establishment; and

WHEREAS, HB 1168 establishes that, subject to funding appropriation, the pilot program shall be implemented not later than August 1, 2008 in each municipality that has adopted an order or ordinance regulating the operation of boarding houses, as defined by the State; and

WHEREAS, HB 1168 became effective on September 1, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the City supports the Legislature's intent and purpose in regulating boarding houses, as defined by the State, and seeks implementation of the pilot program described in HB 1168 in the City of Somerset; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that the municipal public purpose of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the elderly and disabled, as well as the community at large, are served by the regulation of adult care facilities in general, including boarding houses as defined by the Legislature in HB 1168; NOW THEREFORE:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOMERSET:

SECTION 1. The City of Somerset supports the State Legislature's intent and purpose in regulating boarding houses, as defined by the State in House Bill (HB) 1168, and seeks implementation of the pilot program described in HB 1168 in the City of Somerset. A copy of HB 1168 is attached hereto and incorporated herein for all purposes as Attachment I.

SECTION 2. The City of Somerset shall continue to enforce and apply its City Ordinances and its definitions, as it exists until it is amended to coordinate with the implemented pilot program.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall be effective on March 11, 2008.

PASSED AND APPROVED this the 11th day of March, 2008.

Fred Gonzales, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ellen M. Hicks Ellen Hicks, City Clerk/Treasurer